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OF THE

TOWN OF CORNISH,

FOR THE YEAR

Ending March 12, 1867.

CLAREMONT, N. H.:

PRINTED BY THE CLAREMONT MANUFACTURING CO.
1867.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE LIBRARY

REPORT
OF THE
OFFICERS
AND
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
OF THE
TOWN OF CORNISH,
FOR THE YEAR
Ending March 12, 1867.

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State of New Hampshire.

L. S. To the inhabitants of the Town of Cornish, in the County of Sullivan, in said State, qualified to vote in town affairs—

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town House in said Cornish, on Tuesday the 12th day of March next, at 9 of the clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.
2. To choose a Town Clerk.
3. To choose a Representative to represent this town in the General Court of this State.
4. To bring in your votes for Governor, Councillor, Senator, Railroad Commissioner, County Treasurer, Register of deeds, and one County Commissioner.
5. To bring in your votes for Representative to represent the Third Congressional District of this State in the Congress of the United States.
6. To choose Selectmen, and all other necessary town officers.
7. To raise such sum of money as may be necessary to defray town charges the ensuing year.
8. To raise such sum of money as may be necessary to make and repair Highways and Bridges the ensuing year.
9. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise to pay existing claims against the town.
10. To see if the town will vote to dispense with the services of a Liquor Agent the ensuing year.
11. To see if the town will vote to raise money to build the road laid out by the Selectmen on petition of Saul Wyman and others, and pay the land damage for the same.
12. To see if the town will vote to raise money to pay land damage and build the fence around the Burying Ground, enlarged by the Selectmen, on petition of Edward Bryant and others, near Stephen Farnsworth's.
13. To see if the town will vote to raise the pay for labor on highways from 10 cents to 15 cents per hour for man, and from one dollar per day for oxen to 12½ cents per hour.
14. To see if the town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to prosecute all violations of the so called Liquor Law.
15. Is it expedient to abolish pauper settlements in towns and throw the entire support of paupers upon Counties?
16. To see what action the town will take in relation to the suit commenced by the Town of Cornish against the Town of Croydon, for support of pauper.
17. To see what further action the town will take in relation to the legacy bequeathed to this town by the late Jacob Foss, deceased.

Given under our hands and seal, this nineteenth day of February, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-seven.

LEMUEL MARTINDALE, } Selectmen
JONAS HASTINGS, } of
STEPHEN A. TRACY, } Cornish.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

—:o:—

The Selectmen have assessed the inhabitants of
the Town of Cornish and the lands of non-
residents the sum of \$12391 23
Also the inhabitants of School District No. 1, 313 49
No. 3, 251 06
No. 6, 26 37
No. 11, 25 76
To which add non-resident highway tax, 58 36

Amounts to 13066 27
We have paid into the Treasury the following
additional sums, cash received of County for
support of County paupers, 576 94

Amounts to 13643 61
Deduct State tax, \$4102 50
County tax, 1944 82
6047 32

Which leaves a balance of 7596 29
We have drawn orders on the Treasurer as follows:

For support of Schools:

Edwin R. Shedd,	Dist. No. 1,	\$109 45
Edward Bryant,	No. 2,	89 39
Harvey S. Read,	No. 3,	59 36
Arthur L. Wood,	No. 4,	47 78
George L. Cole,	No. 5,	60 16
Chancey P. Jenney	No. 6,	182 96
John L. Paget,	No. 7,	90 57
Benjamin F. Plaistridge,	No. 8,	98 34
Oliver P. Burr,	No. 9,	56 11
Solon C. Lear,	No. 10,	69 38
Charles Williams,	No. 11,	81 07
Hazen Abbott,	No. 12,	19 45
Curtis H. Blake,	No. 13,	59 87
John M. Deming, jr.,	No. 14,	27 79

Norman Hebard,	No. 16,	53 59
J. Emerson, Claremont,	No. 14,	5 49
G. C. Freeman, Plainfield,	No. 1,	2 97

Amounting to 1113 73

For support of County Paupers :

Oliver P. Burr,	302 89
Thomas A. Allen,	52 00
John M. Root,	39 00
Lemuel Martindale,	30 00
John T. Breck,	37 37
Powers & Holbrook,	24 58
Jonas Hastings,	3 00
Lemuel Martindale,	5 72
Hall & Harlow,	6 32
Reuben Davis,	2 00
Charles Williams,	22 81
Stephen A. Tracy,	1 50
Breck & Smith,	9 75
Lemuel Martindale,	2 64
Lemuel Martindale,	15 00

Amounting to 554 58

Town paupers away from Alms-House :

Lemuel Martindale, for 1865,	20 25
Francis Lock,	23 41
Lucy Rickard,	21 00
Cyntha Jackson,	8 00
Hiram M. Fletcher,	23 00
Breck & Smith,	15 75
Lucy Rickard,	14 00
Albe R. Robinson, for 1865,	85 00
Sarah W. Westgate,	40 00
Sarah W. Westgate,	5 55
George W. Hunt,	11 00
Joseph L. Lamberton,	28 00
Cyntha Jackson,	9 50
Lucy Rickard,	8 00

Amounting to 312 46

For Plank and Timber :

Horace B. Wellman,	7 84
James Hildreth,	5 30
George D. Kenyon,	4 64
Dana N. Morgan,	8 43

Reuben Davis,	19 66
Elijah P. Kenyon,	12 71
Quartus Fletcher,	27 07
Lyman Fitch,	6 80
Stephen A. Tracy,	10 14
Edwin H. Smith,	5 00
Harrison Leslie,	1 41
Reuben Davis,	3 10
Henry F. Bartlett,	3 88
Samuel R. Chase,	6 00
John M. Root,	1 70
Auren Johnson,	3 93
Hiram A. Day,	59 00
Oliver P. Burr,	60
L. Harmon Dow,	5 46
Siloam Spaulding,	9 71
John L. Paget,	3 20
John B. Chase,	2 10
Edwin T. Ayers,	13 49
James S. Hunter,	5 40
John T. Breck,	1 04
Orlando J. Richardson,	5 00
Charles E. Jackson,	2 24
Charles W. Comings,	5 00
Horace G. P. Cross,	5 06
Dana N. Morgan,	2 42
David H. Chase,	21 62
Harvey S. Read,	2 20

Amounting to 271 15

Joseph Hilliard, jr., for school in 1865,	36 50
N. Hebard, work and stone for culvert, '65,	7 71
B. B. Churchill, building Davis bridge,	180 00
work on temporary bridge,	7 00
G. W. Hunt, Super. School Com., 1865,	45 00
Henry Bryant, cutting ice in highway,	9 00
Wm. H. Ruggles, do.	9 00
Henry Royce, work on temporary bridge,	4 00
James M. Davidson, to pay old order,	1000 00
Araunah Burnap, insurance policy, 1865,	20 50
Edson C. Eastman, invoice books, &c.,	6 40
B. Burr, stone work on Leslie bridge,	115 00
Benj. Smith, cutting ice in highway,	16 25
Benj. S. Smith, do.	19 77
Benj. Ayers, do.	6 87

Benj. Smith, work on highway, 1865,	10 00
Bradbury Dyer, Agent Dist. No. 3,	240 00
Obed Powers, work on Comings bridge,	174 76
Dingleton bridge,	13 45
Geo. D. Kenyon, work on bridge,	5 25
Reuben Davis, do.	3 75
pass through field,	8 00
E. P. Kenyon, work on Nutting bridge,	1 83
Harrison Leslie, repairing abutment,	12 00
D. H. Hilliard, lock and staple for pound,	1 50
Quartus Fletcher, work on bridge,	15 00
Oliver P. Burr, services with hearse,	42 00
L. H. Dow, sheep killed by dogs, 1865,	7 00
Lucinda Weld, for clothing,	12 00
Ira Colby, jr., attorney's fees,	2 00
E. L. Cushing, do. Robinson suit,	22 28
Claremont Man'g Co., town reports, 1865,	25 00
Wm. D. Burr, covering stone for culvert,	10 00
bnilding culvert,	15 50
Henry M. Day, surveyor's services,	3 50
Hiram A. Day, over tax,	4 95
Wm. D. Lear, watering trough,	3 00
Edwin T. Ayers, work on road,	5 50
Wm. D. Burr, watering trough,	3 00
Francis E. Freeman, over tax,	90
John L. Paget, over tax on dog,	1 00
John T. Breck, for record book,	7 87
Congregational Society, over tax,	15 22
Obed Powers, building over culvert near Edward Kimball's,	128 00
George Jackson, over tax,	3 60
Benj. Ayers, sheep killed by dogs, 1865,	14 00
Erastus O. Cole, damage done to plow,	1 00
Stephen A. Tracy, work on river road,	44 32
Curtis H. Blake, work on bridge	4 00
Geo. D. Kenyon, non-resident receipts,	7 79
Marshall Harlow, entertainment,	6 65
John White, over tax,	6 08
Jas. A. Edminster, over tax, 1865,	4 80
Philanda Ayers, pass for B. F. Bugbee,	6 00
Samuel R. Chase, work on bridge,	5 00
L. Powers, school-house tax, Dist. No. 11,	25 00
C. P. Jenney, do. No. 6,	25 00
Lester Boyd, entertainment,	2 75
David H. Hilliard, services rendered Reu-	

ben B. White's family and others,	13 50
Lucy Shawcross, taking care of R. B. White's family,	40 00
Alexander Boardway, do.	40 00
David Hilliard, groceries furnished R. B. White's family and others,	34 42
Jonas Hastings, bedding, spirit and groceries furnished R. B. White's family,	16 89
John T. Breck, Town Clerk, services,	30 00
do. notifying jurors,	3 50
Moody Hook, work on road,	4 94
Erastus O. Cole, do.	3 00
James M. Davidson, balance due Treasurer March 8, 1866,	37 49
James M. Davidson, expense getting J. Foss legacy,	8 00
Jonas Hastings, work on road,	3 00
Edward W. Collins, entertainment,	18 75
G. D. Kenyon, non-resident highway tax,	21 34
M. Harlow, rep. wagon and horse keeping,	5 00
Benj. G. Farrington, over-tax,	1 80
Geo. Jackson, damage on wagon,	3 00
Wm. Balloch, stone for culvert,	2 00
do. Selectmen serv. and agent in Smith suit, 1865,	10 00
H. G. P. Cross, damage to ox,	3 00
S. P. Thrasher, over-tax on real estate,	18 00
D. H. Chase, iron fast. for Chase bridge,	2 18
G. D. Kenyon, abate. on tax book, 1865,	128 04
do. do. 1866,	75 96
John Dean, entertainment,	12 40
do. watering trough,	3 00
G. D. Kenyon, abatement of school-house in Dist. No. 1,	313 49
Lemuel Martindale, Selectmen services,	77 25
do. expenses to Concord & Newport,	18 75
Jonas Hastings, cash paid out,	4 70
do. Selectmen services,	69 00
do. entertainment,	11 00
Stephen A. Tracy, Selectmen services,	54 75
do. expenses for stamps and paper,	4 00
G. D. Kenyon, Collector's services,	80 00
Lemuel Martindale, interest on orders,	10 00
do. entertainment,	5 50
J. O. Wyman, sheep killed by dogs, 1865,	4 00

Abel Perkins, over-tax,	4 32
Jonas Hastings, sheep killed by dogs,	5 00
James M. Davidson, Treasurer's services,	40 00
H. Gould, Selectmen services, 1865,	3 50
Amounting to	<hr/> 3667 72
Whole amount of orders drawn,	5929 64
Which deducted from the above receipts,	
leaves a balance in favor of the town, of	1666 65

We recommend to the inhabitants of the town of Cornish to raise to defray town charges the ensuing year, the sum of \$1400 00

Also, to repair highways and bridges, 1600 00

To pay damages and build roads laid out by the Selectmen the last year, on petition of Saul Wyman and others, 200 00

To pay damage and build fence around the Burying Ground, enlarged by the Selectmen, on petition of Edward Bryant and others, 250 00

\$3450 00

All of which is respectfully submitted,

LEMUEL MARTINDALE,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
JONAS HASTINGS,	
STEPHEN A. TRACY,	

of
Cornish.

ALMS-HOUSE REPORT.

—:O:—

The Cash Account as rendered by the Agent for the year ending Feb. 28, 1867, is as follows :

RECEIPTS.

Received for produce of Farm,	\$330 29
Rec'd of Selectmen for support of County paupers,	302 89
“ “ services with hearse,	42 00
Amounting to,	<u>\$675 18</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Paid for clothing, groceries, &c.,	\$309 85
O. P. Burr, Agent, salary,	350 00
Amounting to,	<u>659 85</u>

An inventory and appraisal of the personal property at the Alms-House made by the Selectmen on the 28th day of February, 1867, amounts to \$2050.05—an increase over last year's appraisal of \$119.39, to which add amount due from County for support of paupers \$23.75, and other sources \$40, amounts to \$183.14. To which add \$15.33 on cash account, leaves a balance in favor of the Alms-House of \$198.47.

The produce of the Farm has been as follows :

35 tons of hay, 66 lbs. wool, 5 calves, 17 lambs, 15 pigs, 22 bushels India wheat, $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of peas, $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel grass seed, 221 bushels ears of corn, 3 bushels beans, 180 bushels potatoes, 155 bushels oats, 65 bushels apples, 19 bushels turnips, 2 bushels beets, 2 bushels carrots, 1 bushel onions, 35 heads cabbage, 80 lbs. cheese, 497 lbs. butter, 100 lbs. maple sugar, 1000 lbs. of beef, 800 lbs. of pork, 9 loads of pumpkins, 30 chickens and 13 turkeys.

The same good order, neatness and economy that have characterized the agent and his wife in their management of the affairs of the Alms-House in former years, have continued during the past year.

The provisions, grain, &c., will probably be sufficient for the season.

There have been at the Alms-House the past year from five to nine persons. One has died, and three have left.—The present number is five.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

LEMUEL MARTINDALE,
JONAS HASTINGS,
STEPHEN A. TRACY,

Overseers of the Poor.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

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RECEIPTS.

1866.

Mar. 18.	School money refunded from District No. 5,	\$10 00	
June 11.	Cash received of L. Martindale,	123 25	
19.	Cash received " " "	1000 00	
	Cash " Claremont Bank,	1000 00	
			<u>\$2133 25</u>
Sept. 7.	Rec'd of L. Martindale, County money,	365 67	

1867.

Jan. 24.	Rec'd of L. Martindale, County money,	206 77	
Mar. 1.	Rec'd of O. P. Burr, Agent of Alms-house,	15 33	
2.	Interest on School Fund,	28 24	
	Rec'd of Wm. Balloch, on L. H. Smith execution,	8 00	
4.	Rec'd of Lemuel Martindale,	42 05	
			<u>666 06</u>
	Rec'd State Saving Bank tax for 1866,	95 25	
	Rec'd State Treasurer, State Aid money for 1866,	491 32	
	Rec'd State Treas., Railroad tax for 1866,	76 33	
	Rec'd State Treas., Literary Fund for 1866,	53 25	
	Rec'd State Treas., United States bounties,	1480 00	
			<u>2196 15</u>
			<u>4995 46</u>
	Rec'd George D. Kenyon, Collector,	7668 60	

Amounting to, \$12664 06

EXPENDITURES.

Cash paid as principal on old orders,	\$3967 29
Claremont Bank, money hired June 19,	
1866,	1000 00
interest on Town Orders,	2046 27
new Orders,	5650 50

Amounting to, \$12664 06

Which is respectfully submitted by

JAMES M. DAVIDSON,
Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF
THE TOWN.

Orders drawn in the years 1861, '62, '63, '64, '65, and the year ending March 1866, and now outstanding against the town, amounting to the sum of	\$26599 83
Orders drawn the past year and now outstanding,	1279 14
Due Superintending School Committee,	45 00
Due School District No. 15,	14 84
Interest now due on outstanding orders,	200 00
	<hr/>
	\$28138 81

RESOURCES.

Due from the County for support of paupers,	\$25 00
Due from other sources,	40 00
Balance of taxes in Collector's hands,	1383 43
	<hr/>
	\$1448 43
Indebtedness of the Town over and above resources,	\$25690 38
Interest due the ensuing year,	\$1850 00

SCHOOL FUND.

Notes in the hands of the Treasurer,	\$470 87
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JAMES M. DAVIDSON, *Treasurer.*

THE JACOB FOSS LEGACY.

Sept. 14, 1866, received of the Executors of the will of Jacob Foss deceased, late of Charlestown, Mass.,	\$3000 00
Less Revenue Tax,	180 00
	<hr/>
	\$2820 00

Loaned as follows :

Sept. 15.	Due Cornish Town Order,	\$459 16
	Interest on same,	14 77
	M. Wyman note,	60 00
17.	Due Cornish Town Order,	1000 00
	Interest on same,	54 50
	Due Cornish Town Order,	1100 00
	Interest on same,	6 23
	H. Gould note,	125 34
		<hr/>
		\$2820 00

Which is respectfully submitted by

J. M. DAVIDSON.

LIQUOR AGENT'S REPORT.

The undersigned, appointed to sell Wines and spiritous Liquors for the Town, reports from May 1st, 1866, to March 1st, 1867, as follows :

PURCHASES.

Bought 43½ gallons Whiskey; 10 gallons H. Gin; 10 do. Alcohol; 5 do. Brandy, amounting in all to	\$289 60
Paid for measures, &c.,	1 55
Paid for license,	25 00

Whole amount paid out,	\$316 15
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SALES.

Amount of cash received on 139 sales of the above, \$103 37

Amount on hand :

35 gallons Whiskey,	\$105 00
8¼ " Gin,	41 25
4¼ " Brandy,	42 50
3½ " Alcohol,	16 62
Barrels and kegs,	4 00

Amounting to	\$312 74
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Which deducted from amount of expenditures leaves
a balance against the town of

\$3 41

O. P. BURR, *Agent.*

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

FELLOW CITIZENS :

In the discharge of my duty as Superintending School Committee for the past year, I beg leave to submit the following report :

DISTRICT No. 1.—At the time of writing this report, the School Register for this district has not been received. Prudential Committee, name unknown. Amount of school money, \$119.43. Length of Winter term 12 weeks I think, and of Summer term the same. I state from memory. The Summer term was taught by Miss Ellen A. Harlow of Windsor, Vt. Miss H. has superior literary qualifications, and when I visited the school at its commencement, I found it doing well. I was not able to visit it at the close and cannot therefore report in regard to its efficiency, but was told by a citizen of the district that the school was satisfactory.

The winter term was taught by Mr. Austin S. Bronson of Springfield, Vt. This was the first experience of Mr. B. in teaching, but Mr. B. seemed to manage the school as easily and systematically as if he had been accustomed to the business. The school was lengthened—I think two weeks, perhaps less,—by subscription, good evidence of its success. At my last visit I found that good improvement had been made, and that more than ordinary attention had been paid to that neglected study, spelling. Miss Nellie Cross, a little girl 8 years old, was the best speller in the school, in fact I regarded her the best, among the nearly 400 scholars in town.

DISTRICT No. 2.—Prudential Committee, Edward Bryant. Amount of school money, \$89.39. Number of scholars in Summer term 12, in Winter 24. The Summer term of 10 weeks was taught by Miss Hattie Hildreth.

I visited the school at the commencement and found it seemingly progressing well. I was unable to visit it at the close of the term, but have been informed by citizens in the district that Miss H. gave good satisfaction.

A Winter term of 12 weeks was under the instruction of Henry Ayers. The school was lengthened, the second time, beyond the time originally contemplated for the length of the term. This is the third time Mr. Ayers has been employed in this district. It is needless to say that Mr. Ayers understands his business, and that he thoroughly and ably conducted the school. Wherever Mr. A. is employed to teach, that fact is a sufficient guarantee that a successful school will be taught. The pupils in this school all seemed to be earnestly trying to make the most of their time, and opportunity, in pursuing their studies; consequently the school was a profitable one, and highly satisfactory to the district. The highest class in Arithmetic made the most improvement of any in town.

DISTRICT No. 3.—Prudential Committee, Harvey Reed. Amount of School money, \$59.36. Number of scholars in Summer term 16, in Winter 9. The Summer term was commenced by Miss Ellen Hadley. She taught two weeks and then retired from the school; the term of 8 weeks was then finished by Miss Hattie J. Hildreth. I visited the school but once, soon after it commenced. I found it progressing well then. I failed to visit it at the close, but learned from those in the district that Miss H. gave good satisfaction.

The Winter term of 8 weeks was taught by Mr. Washington I. Leslie. This was his first experience in teaching. At my first visit, I found but four scholars in school. I found upon inquiry that there had been a very improper course taken by the Prudential Committee, which injured the influence of the teacher, and brought discredit upon the school. Out of 22 different scholars, all but 9 had left the school, or were taken out by their parents. Serious charges of inefficiency and want of literary qualifications were made against the teacher; but the proof of these charges not being brought forward, and my attention to the subject not legally called thereto, until near the close of the short term, I deemed it best, then, to let the matter rest. I visited the school at the close of the term, and am sorry to say that I did not find that attention to study, and the good order which ought to be found in so small a school, yet, I have no doubt but that Mr. L. honestly and faithfully endeavor-

ed to do all that he could for the interest of the school, and if he did not exhibit the highest degree of tact and judgment in the management of the school, all of the responsibility of its failure should not be assigned to him.

DISTRICT No. 4.—Prudential Committee, Arthur L. Wood. Amount of School money, \$47.78. A Summer term of 10 weeks was taught by Jennie L. Deming. Number of scholars 9. This school was the first one taught by Miss Deming. I visited the school at its commencement and close. I thought very favorably of the school. The recitations of the scholars, at the last visit I made, was very thorough and accurate.

A Winter term of 8 weeks was taught by Miss Hannah T. Deming. Number of scholars 10. When I visited the school at its commencement, it was doing well. Illness compelled Miss Deming to give up her school at the end of the 8th week; consequently I did not visit it at the close, but have reason to think that Miss Deming conducted it with her former good success.

DISTRICT No. 5.—Prudential Committee, George Cole. Amount of School money, \$60.16. Length of Summer term 8 weeks. This school was taught by Miss Eunice F. Deming. Number of scholars 11. This school at its beginning and close, upon examination, gave evidence of being thoroughly and systematically taught. Miss Deming evidently uses tact, skill, and energy, in her method of teaching, and an art almost unknown to teachers in general in inducing her pupils to attend school regularly and promptly.

A Winter school of 9 1-2 weeks in duration was also taught by Miss Eunice F. Deming. The same excellent progress was made, in this term, as was observed in the Summer term. The district may rest assured that the services of the school teacher in their district, for the last year, was ably and faithfully filled.

DISTRICT No. 6.—Prudential Committee, C. P. Jenney. Amount of School money, \$182.96. Number of scholars in Summer term 31, in Winter 25. A Summer term of 12 weeks was taught by Miss Caddie J. Hall. Miss Hall managed the school with her usual good success; energy, order, and obedience to school regulations, seemed to be prominent points in the management of the school, while the system and method of instruction was of the same commendable character. The Winter term, of 12 weeks,

was also taught by Miss Hall, with the same good results as were attained in her management of the Summer term. I take pleasure in noticing that feature in Miss Hall's conduct of her school, requiring of her pupils prompt obedience to salutary school discipline. In a village school, strict discipline must be maintained, or the school will be a failure.

The principal department was under the management of J. B. Deavitt. Length of term 10 weeks. Mr. Deavitt commenced the difficult if not dangerous task of managing the mental and moral discipline of the 23 young ladies and gentlemen committed to his care as if he were a "veteran" in the business. The successful completion of his task, as far as he was concerned, convinces me that I am right in giving to the aforesaid gentleman the above title. From what I saw and heard of Mr. Deavitt's management of his school, I can speak decidedly favorably of it. The discipline, the instruction of the pupils, the general management, seemed to be all good. As far as I know, the teacher, the scholars and parents worked harmoniously together. But there was one thing beyond the control of the teacher, absence of attendance, which impaired the efficiency of the school. This fault should be corrected by the authority of the parent. There is no reason that this school should be the worst in town in this respect.

DISTRICT No. 7. Prudential Committee, John Paget. Amount of school money \$90.57. Number of scholars in Summer term 13, in Winter 15.

The Summer term of 10 weeks was taught by Miss Hannah T. Deming. Miss D. sustained her former good reputation. The discipline and instruction of the school was very commendable, and the improvement in all the studies very evident at the closing examination.

The Winter term of 13 weeks was taught by Miss Ella J. Sturtevant. It was unfortunate for the interest of all the district that Miss Sturtevant was selected to teach this school. A large and influential portion of the district was strongly opposed to Miss S. teaching the school. This fact should not have been overlooked by the Prudential Committee in hiring the teacher and in its effect upon the success of the school. The Prudential Committee, being the agent of the district, should act for the interest of the whole district, and prudently refrain from acting in opposition to the expressed wishes of a respectable portion of it.

No matter whether the opposition to Miss S. was a reasonable one or not, the fact of its existence should have been carefully considered. It would be strange if such a portion of the district as opposed Miss S. could not have assigned, in their belief, reasonable grounds for their opposition. Serious charges of general inefficiency against the teacher were made, but not being brought to my notice in a legal manner, no investigation of them was had.

At my first visit to the school at its commencement, I found it appearing apparently well, except too much of an inattention to study, and a certain unmistakable want of harmony between teacher and pupil which did not argue well for the future. Eleven scholars were withdrawn from the school by their parents and guardians. At my closing visit nine were present. The teacher seemed to be taking much pains with them. I have no doubt but that Miss S. strove to do well in this school, and would have given satisfaction in a different school under more favorable circumstances, but I do not think that it was one which she was well adapted to teach.

DISTRICT No. 8. Prudential Committee B. F. Plaistrige. Amount of school money \$98.34. Number of scholars in the Summer 18, in Winter 23.

The Summer term of 10 weeks was under the instruction of Miss Rachel A. Hook. Miss Hook is a teacher of large experience, and thorough in school discipline. The school was all that could be desired. Method and harmony prevailed in everything. It is unnecessary to say that the pupils made good progress.

A Fall term of 8 weeks was taught by Miss L. G. Roberts of Plainfield. Number of scholars 28. Miss R. seemed to lack in energy; and I thought did not infuse into her pupils that spirit of emulation and go-aheaditiveness which should govern the efforts of all who teach the young. But Miss R. got along with the school quite pleasantly, and a fair degree of progress was made.

The Winter school of 11 weeks was commenced by Miss Isabell Fletcher, but sickness compelled her to leave it after teaching a few days. The school seemed to be doing well when I visited it. Miss Hattie Ayers finished the term. Miss H. enforced good discipline, and required of her pupils thoroughness and exactness in all their studies. I think that the school was a profitable one.

DISTRICT No. 9. Prudential Committee, Oliver Burr. Amount of school money \$56.11. Number of scholars in Summer term 10, in Winter 16.

The Summer term of 11 weeks was taught by Miss Lucy C. Comings. This school in all respects appeared well. I judged it to be efficiently and faithfully conducted. All the pupils made good progress in their studies. That highly important thing, regularity of attendance by the pupils, was nearly perfect, being the best in town.

A Winter term of 13 weeks was also taught by Miss Comings. The same efficiency and progress was apparent in this as in the Summer school. The closing examination, the speaking, the paper written by the scholars, was very creditable. The regular attendance of the pupils—averaging 15 while the whole number of scholars was but 16—is an example in that respect which most other schools throughout the town might follow with advantage.

DISTRICT No. 10. Prudential Committee, Solon C. Lear. Amount of school money \$69.38. Number of scholars in Summer term 15, in Winter 21.

The Summer term of 12 weeks was under the instruction of Miss Cassia Freeman. Miss Freeman is a teacher of tried ability and experience, and the school consequently was all that could be desired.

A Winter term of 13 weeks was also taught by Miss Freeman, the closing examination convinced me that good progress was made in all the studies pursued in school.

DISTRICT No. 11.—Prudential Committee, Charles Williams. Amount of School money, \$81.07. Number of scholars in Summer term 26, in Winter 41.

The Summer term of 12 weeks taught by Miss Lorette Jackson. This school is large, and somewhat unruly. Scholars too much inclined to take the management of the school upon themselves. Miss Jackson, although but little experienced in school teaching, I regarded as having superior qualifications for the business. I think that the school, under the circumstances, was well managed and taught. Miss Jackson's method of teaching seems to be accurate, and discipline good. I think that the district generally, were well satisfied with Miss Jackson's management of the school.

The Winter term of 8 weeks was taught by Geo. F. Whitcomb, of Claremont. Mr. Whitcomb's literary qualifications were superior. This was his first experience in

teaching. Mr. W.'s manner of conducting the school was very pleasant and agreeable. For a novice in the business, I think he did exceedingly well, and generally gave good satisfaction. The size of the school considered, being the largest in town, it is not to be wondered at, that it was somewhat noisy, but Mr. W. seemed to devote his time and energies, faithfully to the discharge of his duties.

The term ought to have been longer, for so large a school.

DISTRICT No. 12.—Prudential Committee, H. Abbot. Amount of School money, 119.45. Number of scholars 5, Length of school 4 weeks. This school was taught by Miss Lucy C. Comings. Miss C. taught the school with the success which has heretofore attended her efforts in teaching. Good progress was made during this short term.

DISTRICT No. 13.—Prudential Committee, C. H. Blake. Amount of School money, \$59.87. Number of scholars in Summer term 15, in Winter 18. The Summer term of 11 weeks was taught by Miss Ella J. Sturtevant. This was her first school. Miss S. got along well with the school, the relations between pupil and teacher mutually agreeable, and pleasant. I considered the school well conducted, and the instruction imparted in an efficient and agreeable way. The classes in Geography did extremely well.

A winter term of 13 weeks was taught by Miss Lorette Jackson. The school, in all respects, was a success; all the duties of a competent, and earnest instructor, was fully discharged by Miss Jackson; and the progress made in the various studies, was plainly shown at the closing examination of the term. This school should also be commended for the regular attendance of the scholars.

DISTRICT No. 14.—Prudential Committee, Harvey M. Deming. Amount of School money, \$27.79. Number of scholars 5. But one term of 11 weeks was taught during the year, by Miss Sarah M. Libbey, of Newport. Miss Libbey's literary qualifications were not sufficient to teach a very large, or advanced school. I visited the school at its commencement; it appeared to be doing well, but failed to learn when it closed; but the Prudential Committee reports that the school was a good one.

DISTRICT No. 16.—Prudential Committee, Norman Hibbard. Amount of School money, \$53.59. Number of scholars in Summer term 22, in Winter 21. The Summer term of 10 weeks was taught by Miss Jennie V. Green, of Plainfield. Miss G. has had but little experience in teach-

